

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 12471 071728Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00 IO-13
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 /075 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0002
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12471

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, BQG
SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY PRESS STATEMENT FOR REPLY TO
QUESTIONS REGARDING ABRASIMOV INTERVIEW

REFS: (A) USBER 1578 (C) USBER 1557
(B) BONN 12105

1. WE AGREE WITH THE ANALYSIS CONTAINED IN REF A AND
WOULD UNDER OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT
AN ALLIED STATEMENT IN BERLIN RESPONDING TO ABRASIMOV.
THE DIFFICULTY IS THAT THE BRITISH AND FRENCH OPPOSE

SUCH A COURSE AND THE FRG, TO WHOM WE DEFER AS TO WHAT
IS REQUIRED FROM A PUBLIC RELATIONS STANDPOINT SINCE
THE REAL PUBLIC AUDIENCE IS A GERMAN ONE, HAS NOT PRESSED
FOR SUCH A STATEMENT. THE FRG REP ASKED IN THE JULY 5
BONN GROUP MEETING WHETHER THE ALLIES HAD APPROVAL
OF THE CONTINGENCY PRESS STATEMENT, AS HE DID. THE
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BRITISH DID, THE FRENCH SAID PARIS WANTED A SLIGHT
REVISION AND THE US REP MENTIONED USBER'S VIEWS WHICH
WERE UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE
FRENCH REP (RICHARD) SAID THAT THE FRENCH MISSION IN
BERLIN HAD REPORTED THE USBER RECOMMENDATION TO THE QUAI,
WHICH REJECTED THE PROPOSAL, AND THE UK REP (EYERS)
SAID THAT THE UK MISSION HAD NOT REPORTED IT, PRESUMABLY

BECAUSE IT KNEW THE FCO WOULD REJECT IT OUT OF HAND.

2. SINCE THE FRG IS SATISFIED WITH THE PRESENT PROPOSAL FOR A CONTINGENCY PRESS STATEMENT, WE SEE LITTLE PURPOSE IN SEEKING TO CHANGE THE UK AND FRENCH POSITION ON A MATTER WHICH APPEARS NO LONGER TO BE OF CURRENT PUBLIC INTEREST. THE TIME SPENT SEEKING TO DO SO WOULD BE

ILL-SPENT IN VIEW OF THE URGENCY OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT.

3. WE ASSUME THAT THERE WILL BE QUESTIONS AT THE TOWN MEETING TO WHICH THE PRESIDENT WILL BE ASKED TO RESPOND AND WHICH WILL GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE US VIEW ON THE SUBJECT OF THE TIES BETWEEN THE FRG AND BERLIN, OF WHICH THE SUBJECTS WHICH ABRASIMOV CRITICIZED ARE A PART. A SUGGESTED LINE MIGHT BE: "WE ARE MINDFUL OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TIES BETWEEN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND BELIEVE THE POLICY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC ON SUCH MATTERS IS FULLY IN ACCORD WITH THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT."

4. AT PRESENT, THERE IS A NEW AD REF BONN GROUP AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT. THE FRENCH, ON INSTRUCTIONS, PUT FORTH A VERSION WHICH THE OTHER THREE AGREED WOULD HAVE THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ALLIES SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE FRG. RICHARD THEN SUGGESTED A TEXT WHICH HE THOUGHT PARIS COULD ACCEPT,

WHICH HAS BEEN AGREED AD REF: "AS IS WELL KNOWN, THE THREE POWERS ATTACH THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO THE STRICT OBSERVANCE AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE QUADRI-PARTITE AGREEMENT. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS MADE ITS POSITION KNOWN IN THIS CONNECTION. THIS POSITION DOES NOT DIFFER FROM THAT OF THE THREE POWERS."

5. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF NEW AD REF CONTINGENCY PRESS STATEMENT. STOESSEL

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